

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH, 1876.

二拜禮

號八十二月一十英 港香

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH.

No. 5932

號二十三百九十五第

日三十十年子丙緒光

Arrivals.

November 26, CHINA-AN, British 3-m. sch., 304, J. Baile, Newchung 14th Nov., Boats—CAPTAIN.
November 27, NORWICH, British str., 664, J. A. Redell, Sydney 2nd Nov., Cape Morton 4th, and Cocktown 11th, General—GIBR, LIVINGSTON & CO.
November 27, LEON, British str., 403, M. Young, Tamsui 23rd November, Tui-wanfu 24th, and Amoy 25th, General—D. LARSEN & CO.
November 27, JULIA ANN, American bark, 328, Baker, Newchung 15th Nov., Beau Chate—WM. PUSTAT & CO.
November 27, FU-YEW, Clunies str., 920, A. Crook, Shanghai 23rd Nov., General—C. M. S. N. CO.
November 27, TALES, German bark, 342, M. Hollmann, Chefoo 11th Nov., Vermicelli and Dates—SIEGMESSEN & CO.
November 27, JOHANN SCHMIDT, German bark, 454, H. Rohr, Newchung 18th Nov., General—WEILER & CO.
November 27, YANG WOO, Chinese, corvette, Captain Percy Lumsden, from Canton.
November 27, THIES, French str., 1,009, de Givard, Yokohama 21st Nov., General—MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

Clearances.

AT THE HARBOURMASTER'S OFFICE,
NOVEMBER 27TH.
Frugl Balzach, German bark, for London.
Emma, German bark, for Amyo.
Nanza, British steamer, for Shanghai.
Nipper, British steamer, for Shanghai.
Auz, British steamer, for Shanghai.
Exterior, British str., for Saigon.
Marie Louise, French bark, for Kedong.

Departures.

November 27, PSALM, Brit. str., for Swatow.
November 27, YANGZEE, British steamer, for Canton.
November 27, FU-YEW, Chi. str., for Canton.
November 27, NUNO, British steamer, for Shanghai.

Passengers.

ARRIVED
Per Leonor, str., from Tamsui, &c.—
Captains Barrett, Lunne, and Lewey, and
Messrs. Hollands and Morham.
Per Normandy, str., from Sydney, &c.—
115 Chinese.
Per Pe-yen, from Shanghai.—
European, 118 Chinese.
Per Asia, from Newchung.—
Mr. Baker and 2 children.
Per Johann Schmidt, from Newchung.—
6 Chinese.
Per Thoro, str., from Yokohama.—
For Hongkong.—Mr. Fraser, for Batavia.
—Mr. Lure, for Marcellus—Mr. and Mrs.
Centurion and child, Messrs. Ferrero, Maurer,
Smith, and Torquay.

DEPARTED.

Per Ningpo, str., for Shanghai.—
1 Cabin and 60 Chinese.
TO DEPART.
Per Nanza, str., for East Coast.—
150 Chinese.
Per Asia, str., for Shanghai.—
1 Cabin.

Reports.

The German bark Tales reports left Choocho on 18th November, and had fine weather and N.E. wind throughout.

The Chinese steamship Fu-yew reports left Shanghai on 23rd November, and had moderate N.E. winds and fine weather.

The German bark Johann Schmidt reports left Newchung on 18th November, and had strong easterly winds and fine weather.

The French steamer Tiber reports left Yokohama on 21st November, and had moderate winds and fine weather.

The British 3-masted schooner Ching-tao reports left Newchung on 15th November, and had strong N.W. winds down to Formosa; thence moderate N.E. winds to arrival. The Ching-tao is bound for Colombo (Ceylon), put into Hongkong with chronometer down.

The British steamer Lorna reports left Tamsui on 26th November, thence on the 28th to Amyo on the 29th. From Tamsui to Taiwanfu and Amyo had strong monsoon and high sea. From Amyo to Hongkong fresh monsoon and fine weather. In Taiwanfu the steamer ship Hatlong, the steamer ship Daugai left Amyo for Fuchow at 4 p.m., and steamed westward for Swatow at 6 p.m. and steamed westward for Fuchow at 10 p.m.

The American bark Julia Ann reports left Newchung on 15th November, and had strong N.W. winds down to Formosa; thence moderate N.E. winds to arrival. The Julia Ann is bound for Colombo (Ceylon), put into Hongkong with chronometer down.

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The British steamer Normandy reports left Singapore on 2nd November, at 5:14 p.m., and had light, steady winds and fine weather. Passed Cape Moreton on the 4th at 7 p.m., had fresh N.W. winds and fine weather. Anchored off Cooktown at 4:30 p.m., had anchored off No. 1 wharf. On the 11th at 3:40 p.m., having received main Chinese passengers, etc., proceeded to sea; at 11:34 p.m. anchored off No. 1 wharf. On the 12th at 5 a.m., had up proceeded; at 2:33 p.m., same day anchored off Sherrard Islands till daylight, hazy weather. On the 16th at 9:36 p.m., anchored off June Rain till daylight, dark, hazy weather. Passed Ebury Island on the 14th at 8:26 a.m. Across the Arafura, Bandas, etc., had moderate N.W. winds and fine weather. On the 23rd passed through Mindoro Straits, light Northernly winds and fine weather. Across the China Sea experienced strong N. Easterly winds and heavy rain. On the 26th at 10 p.m., anchored in Hongkong Harbour and on the 27th at 6 a.m. shifted into berth.

Vessels that have arrived in Europe from Ports of Asia, Japan and Manilla.

(For last Mail's Advice.)

Queen of India..... Formosa, Date of Arrival
Chancier Queen..... Hongkong, Oct.
Lord of the Isles (s.), Shanghai, Oct.
Dona (s.)..... Foochow, Oct.
Nankin (s.)..... Oct.

Vessels expected at Hongkong
(Correspond to Date.)

President..... Form., Date of Arrival
Mon. Washington..... Hamburg, July 26
Outward..... Cardiff, July 23
Hopewell..... London, July 23
E. P. Bourne..... Cardiff, Aug.
Usamah..... Antwerp, Aug.
Bertha..... Cardiff, Sept.
Frederick..... Cardiff, Sept.
Hector..... London, Sept.
John..... London, Sept.
Sarah Nicholson..... London, Sept.
Western Bell..... Cardiff, Sept.
A. T. Starkney..... Cardiff, Sept.
Belles of Oregon..... Cardiff, Sept.
Galatea (s.)..... Falmouth, Oct.
Glamorganshire..... Liverpool, Oct.
Decades (s.)..... Liverpool, Oct.

Auction Sales To-day.

To be Let.

A FIRST-CLASS GRANITE GODOWN
on the Front, Wan-chi.
Apply to
S. E. BURROWS & SONS,
148 Hongkong, 20th March, 1876.

TO LET.

THE HOUSES, Nos. 13 and 15, STANHOPE
STREET.

Apply to
TURNER & CO.,
21, Queen's Road,
1122 Hongkong, 18th July, 1876.

TO LET.

THE THREE-STORY DWELLING HOUSE,
No. 118, SPRING GARDENS, Queen's
Road EAST.

Apply to
D. NOWREYE,
Hongkong Hotel,
1m 1732 Hongkong, 1st November, 1876.

TO LET.

With Immediate Possession.
HOUSES on Upper Mosque Terrace, All
with Gas and Water laid on.

Apply to
T. G. LINSTEAD,
146 Hongkong, 27th September, 1876.

TO LET.

HOUSES IN SYMPHONY TERRACE and
PEDDARS HILL.

Apply to
DAVID SASSON, SONS & CO.,
4108 Seaton, 11th November, 1876.

TO LET.

VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

ROOMS for OFFICES, with or without a
GODOWN.

Apply to
E. LILLEY, Stanley Street,
1722, Hongkong, 31st October, 1876.

TO LET.

THE PREMISES in FLETCHER'S BUILDINGS,
now in the occupancy of A. E.
MAYER, with some spacious DWELLING
APARTMENTS with GRANITE DOORS,
facing the Harbour and Queen's Road.

The TWO adjoining HOUSES and PRE-
MISES are also available.

Also.

THE LOWER STOREY of FAIRFIELD,
West Point.

Apply to
J. SHARP TOLLER, and JOHN JONES,
1555 Hongkong, 17th October, 1876.

TO LET.

THE DWELLING HOUSE, No. 4, Alexan-
der Terrace.

THE DWELLING HOUSE, No. 2, Gough
Street.

Apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.,
1584 Hongkong, 8th November, 1876.

TO LET.

THE TWO UPPER STOREYS of No. 12,
QUEEN'S ROAD, next to the French Bank.

Apply to
LOCK HING,
Japan Ware Store,
1753 Hongkong, 4th November, 1876.

TO LET.

(With Immediate Possession.)

THE PREMISES, No. 8, PRATA, late in
the occupation of Messrs. GILLEN & CO.,
Gas and Water laid on.

Apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,
704 Hongkong, 16th May, 1876.

TO LET.

SAYLE & CO.

1588 Hongkong, 26th September, 1876.

KOWLOON FERRY.

THE COMMODIOUS STEAM-LAUNCH
"OMU SING."

is now plying as a FERRY-boat between
PARKES' WHARF and TIM-TEA-TSUL from
Six A.M. and at the following hours:

WEEK DAYS.—SUNDAYS.

LONDON, 10:00 A.M., 12:00 P.M., 2:00 P.M.,
4:00 P.M., 6:00 P.M., 8:00 P.M., 10:00 P.M.

12:00 A.M., 2:00 P.M., 4:00 P.M., 6:00 P.M.,
8:00 P.M., 10:00 P.M.

5:30 P.M., 7:00 P.M., 8:00 P.M., 9:00 P.M.

6:00 P.M., 7:00 P.M., 8:00 P.M., 9:00 P.M.

7:00 P.M., 8:00 P.M., 9:00 P.M., 10:00 P.M.

8:00 P.M., 9:00 P.M., 10:00 P.M., 11:00 P.M.

9:00 P.M., 10:00 P.M., 11:00 P.M., 12:00 A.M.

10:00 P.M., 11:00 P.M., 12:00 A.M., 1:00 A.M.

1:00 A.M., 2:00 A.M., 3:00 A.M., 4:00 A.M.

2:00 A.M., 3:00 A.M., 4:00 A.M., 5:00 A.M.

3:00 A.M., 4:00 A.M., 5:00 A.M., 6:00 A.M.

4:00 A.M., 5:00 A.M., 6:00 A.M., 7:00 A.M.

5:00 A.M., 6:00 A.M., 7:00 A.M., 8:00 A.M.

6:00 A.M., 7:00 A.M., 8:00 A.M., 9:00 A.M.

7:00 A.M., 8:00 A.M., 9:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M.

8:00 A.M., 9:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M., 11:00 A.M.

9:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M., 11:00 A.M., 12:00 P.M.

10:00 A.M., 11:00 A.M., 12:00 P.M., 1:00 P.M.

1:00 P.M., 2:00 P.M., 3:00 P.M., 4:00 P.M.

2:00 P.M., 3:00 P.M., 4:00 P.M., 5:00 P.M.

3:00 P.M., 4:00 P.M., 5:00 P.M., 6:00 P.M.

4:00 P.M., 5:00 P.M., 6:00 P.M., 7:00 P.M.

5:00 P.M., 6:00 P.M., 7:00 P.M., 8:00 P.M.

6:00 P.M., 7:00 P.M., 8:00 P.M., 9:00 P.M.

7:00 P.M., 8:00 P.M., 9:00 P.M., 10:00 P.M.

8:00 P.M., 9:00 P.M., 10:00 P.M., 11:00 P.M.

9:00 P.M., 10:00 P.M., 11:00 P.M., 12:00 A.M.

10:00 P.M., 11:00 P.M., 12:00 A.M., 1:00 A.M.

1:00 A.M., 2:00 A.M., 3:00 A.M., 4:00 A.M.

3:00 A.M., 4:00 A.M., 5:00 A.M., 6:00 A.M.

4:00 A.M., 5:00 A.M., 6:00 A.M., 7:00 A.M.

5:00 A.M., 6:00 A.M., 7:00 A.M., 8:00 A.M.

6:00 A.M., 7:00 A.M., 8:00 A.M., 9:00

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY

For 1877,

(With which has been incorporated the
CHINA DIRECTORY).

The Publisher requests that those who have not yet returned the printed forms which have been sent to them to fill up, will be good enough to do so without delay. Any persons who have recently arrived, and to whom printed forms have not been sent, are respectfully requested to forward their names and addresses as early as possible for insertion.

Daily Press Office, November 13th, 1876.

NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
FAMILY AND DISPENSING
CHEMISTS.By Appointment to His Excellency the Governor and his Royal Highness the Duke of EDINBURGH,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
PERFUMERS,PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS,
DRUGGISTS' SUPPLIERS,
AND
AERATED WATER MAKERS.SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REFITTED,
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.NOTICE.—To avoid delay in the execution of Orders it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Firm, A. S. Watson and Co., or
827 HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, NOVEMBER 28TH, 1876.

According to latest accounts received from the North of China, great suffering is already being experienced there through the famine. The Soochow correspondent of the *Courier* reports the arrival of several hundreds of famishing people from the north of the Yangtze river. Their object was, of course, in every case, to obtain food. No doubt they will be followed by many more, and the country to the south will thus have to bear a portion of the burden entailed by the failure of the crops in Shantung and Chihli. The refugees already arrived in Soochow do not seem to have waited until reduced to extremity, or they migrated, for they are said to be decently clothed and not to appear pinched with hunger. But they are destitute of resources, and must, therefore, rely upon the charity of the people or authorities of Soochow for their daily wants.

It is to be feared that the winter will witness great and widespread distress in North China. The Vicerey of Chihli is, it is stated, sending rice and money to some out-of-the-way districts off the main roads, and this is certainly a wise and benevolent measure, if only it is properly carried out, for it is in the remote districts that the keenest suffering will be felt, and the greatest mortality experienced, unless measures are taken in good time to prevent it. Even now there is much misery felt, and the wretched people have been driven to part with their dearest possessions. Not only have many of them disposed of all their farm stock, but sales of women, girls, and children are reported to be frequent. The other day, says a northern contemporary, a man sold his wife and two young girls for nine thousand taels; and such incidents, it is added, are of daily occurrence. What will result when the winter in all its severity has set in, it is not pleasant to anticipate. The Chinese are seldom too warmly clad, and with insufficient nourishment and scanty covering it is to be feared that they will die off by the thousand. The Soochow correspondent above alluded to mentions the fact that in January, 1874, forty beggars died in that city in one night on account of the unusually cold weather and want of food and clothing. This terrible experience is likely to be repeated on a much larger scale unless vigorous and timely efforts be made by the authorities to avert such a disaster. Spasmodic assistance will be of little avail. To be effective, help must be organised and regular. The Vicerey of Chihli is one of the few Chinese officials who has any idea of doing anything of the kind in a systematic manner. And it is doubtful whether his efforts will be successful in providing against the distress, which is growing greater daily. The prospects for next year are, too, anything but rosy. The ravages of the locusts have, it is asserted, been severely felt in many parts not far from Nanking, the last sowings having suffered greatly. What with the droughts and the insects, it is expected that much desolation will ensue. It is to be hoped, however, that matters may turn out more favourable than generally anticipated, or that the districts where short crops are sown for may be fewer and more widely scattered than is now believed.

The recent massacre of Imperialist troops in Formosa by the aborigines, together with numerous other affairs of a similar character in which the Chinese have come of second best, seems to have created a prejudice in the minds of these gallant braves against the island as a place of residence. At least that is the impression produced by the following incident told by our Shanghai evening paper. It says:— "Some few days ago, the Chinese authorities at Foochow got together five hundred soldiers for service in Formosa. The day arrived for shipping them off, when, lo and behold! the number of their men was found to be incomplete by about two hundred men. On enquiry it turned out that the runways did not care to go to Formosa; they had no objection to hard fighting, but the climate, they said, did not agree with them." It is all very well for them to put their reluctance to go to Formosa down to the climate, but it is very obvious that they have a stronger reason. At all events it is strange that the objection has never been started before. The Chinese are not won, as a rule, to be particular about the climate of a country; if there is money to be made, the climate never acts as a deterrent. Nor has the climate of Formosa hitherto kept away Chinese settlers. Had it been as unhealthy as that of some of the African settlements, Sirs Isaac Lees to wit, where the British soldiers at one time fled off like rotten sheep, half the force perishing annually,

there would have been good reason for refusing to go where almost certain death without glory awaited them. But Formosa is about as healthy as China proper. There are some spots which are more subject to malaria, no doubt, but as a whole the island possesses a similar climate to the provinces of Fukien. The real fact is that these valiant men-at-arms were afraid of sharing the fate of their predecessors, and thought a whole skin preferable to the chance of being picked off by an aboriginal bullet. The honour of dying in the service of their country presented no great charm to them. Nor is this much to be wondered at. The poor wretches are badly paid and often insufficiently rationed. They have no incentive to show courage and constancy in the field or patriotism to their country, and devotion to the Throne under the present system of administration is not likely to exist. The Chinese military system fails to impress any spirit of patriotism in the troops, fail even to render them daring through hope of signal reward, and they are thus usually unwilling to face a determined foe. The Formosan

authorities, who is perpetually plotting surprises, is an especially unwelcome adversary, as it often happens that the favourites resort of running away is rendered impossible by his wariness.

The steamer *Pallas* left Sydney, New South Wales, for Shanghai, on the 25th ultimo.

The steamer *Wilton Turner* cleared from Sydney (N.S.W.), for Shanghai, on the 30th ultimo.

The schooner *Empress of China* arrived at Sydney (N.S.W.), on the 25th ultimo from Foochow.

The German barque *Mosche* arrived at Sydney, New South Wales, from Fowey, on the 2nd ultimo.

The steamer *Ocean* arrived at Sydney, New South Wales, via Chinkiang, from Hongkong, on the 29th ultimo.

The meeting of the Legislative Council announced for yesterday is postponed until further notice.

The volume containing the Medical Reports for the half-year ended the 31st March last, the Surgeons to the Customs and the Treasury Ports, has just come to hand.

A parade and inspection of the Government and Volunteer Fire Brigades will be held to-day at 4.30 p.m., at the cross-roads in front of the No. 5 Police Station and Engine-house.

A new Chinese paper, called the *Sing-pao*, has been started in Shanghai. It is confessedly the organ of the mandarins, and will, it is to be presumed, be supported by them, if it is not entirely issued under official supervision.

The Band of Her Majesty's 25th Regiment will perform the following programmes this evening:

Overture..... "La Siesta";..... Author. Selection..... "La Jiglia del Reggimento";..... Domestico..... "Cavalleria";..... Author. Hurst. Selection..... "Bogato";..... Vivaldi. Selection..... "Sinfonia";..... Henoder. Selection..... "God Save the Queen";..... E. P. Huast, Conductor.

The steamer *Lemor*, which arrived here on Sunday, when the Fortune Channel ran down the American three-masted schooner *Frances Letey* and sank her. It is understood that the captain of the *Lemor* came down in the steamer *Lemor*. There will be a Court of Inquiry into the circumstances of the collision some time during the week, probably on Thursday, when the particulars will be made public.

There is a rumour abroad that the Chinese revenue cruiser *Peng-chow-hai* has recently captured a man said to be a northern contemporary, a man had him and two young girls for nine thousand taels; and such incidents, it is added, are of daily occurrence. What will result when the winter in all its severity has set in, it is not pleasant to anticipate. The Chinese are seldom too warmly clad, and with insufficient nourishment and scanty covering it is to be feared that they will die off by the thousand. The Soochow correspondent above alluded to mentions the fact that in January, 1874, forty beggars died in that city in one night on account of the unusually cold weather and want of food and clothing. This terrible experience is likely to be repeated on a much larger scale unless vigorous and timely efforts be made by the authorities to avert such a disaster. Spasmodic assistance will be of little avail. To be effective, help must be organised and regular. The Vicerey of Chihli is one of the few Chinese officials who has any idea of doing anything of the kind in a systematic manner. And it is doubtful whether his efforts will be successful in providing against the distress, which is growing greater daily. The prospects for next year are, too, anything but rosy. The ravages of the locusts have, it is asserted, been severely felt in many parts not far from Nanking, the last sowings having suffered greatly. What with the droughts and the insects, it is expected that much desolation will ensue. It is to be hoped, however, that matters may turn out more favourable than generally anticipated, or that the districts where short crops are sown for may be fewer and more widely scattered than is now believed.

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CERTIFIED MEDIUMS.

Not to be behind more mundane persons, the oppositionists spirits which are to successfully fooling weak-minded mortals have deemed it necessary to add diplomas to their titles. One of them of this human man, true to his false mediumism. But here it is a difficulty, the spirits undertake to guarantee the mediumism, but who will guarantee the spirits? We do not know whether any English mediums have as yet been honoured by diplomas. Our information is from Russian sources, and especially related to a certain Russian medium, who has not long ago, among his peers, his exertions found the diploma of which the following is a translation—“Re incarnation and exorcism of spirits No. 11.—Optimism of life from rage to age and world to world—Diploma: The Legion of Spirits, recognizing your ardent and unlimited zeal for the science which reveals the mysteries of the supernatural, and the secret of the spiritual world, in order that you may serve as a link of union between the material world and the immaterial world, and may transmute to the profane manifestations from the spirit world. In token whereof the present diploma is conferred upon you—Paris, January 1, 1876—René, Great Pontifical Secretary—Conferred by the Pontifical Academy. How many others have been inspired to constitute itself a university for the issuing of spiritual diplomas will no mystery to those who are familiar with the progress of mystical studies and speculation in France of late years.—The Lance.

LIGNOSE, A NEW EXPLOSIVE.

According to the *Industrie Zeitung*, the inventors of Lignose, a new explosive, have prepared a nitro-glycerine, invented by Trützschler-Pelkornick, in a very light powder, which in a loose condition burns very slowly. The cartridges made of it are larger than those of ordinary blasting powder of the same power. As it does not stand moisture it cannot replace dynamite. It has been employed in mining, and has been made of it, although, under favorable place, its explosive force, which however, does not seem to be uniform, at least, three times that of an equal weight of blasting powder, instead of at five times, as claimed at first; the price has therefore been fixed by the manufacturer on the basis of the former, at something less than that of an equivalent quantity of powder. Great attention is given to the safety of the cartridge, so that it can not be exploded by contact with naked fire, and with difficulty by friction or percussion, while it can be used with a ease in blasting. It is also said that but little, and that burns, can be left after explosion. In the *Polytechnische Centralblatt*, an account, however, is given of the explosion and detonation of the building, which came down in a single pre-arranged moment, causing little damage, although according to tests made under Governmental supervision the explosion had been pronounced perfectly safe. The combustion of the cartridges, when first noticed, was so slow that twenty-two out of twenty-three persons employed escaped unburnt before the explosion occurred.

GENERAL BRAGG.

The Daily News says—General Braxton Bragg, whose date has recently been announced by the telegram from New York, was a famous man in his day. Perhaps he was the man on the Confederate side who did more than any other to prevent the Confederate cause from succeeding. Doubts as to his military ability have exceeded in any case, but the mistakes and deficiency on the part of General Johnston, which General Braxton Bragg, in his judgment, had committed, led him to the exclusion of better men, had a great deal to do with the collapse of the Confederacy. General Bragg was a brave soldier, and was qualified to do good work in some subordinate position. He was a West Point man, and had seen service in the Mexican War. He succeeded General Beauregard as commander-in-chief, and fought gallantly in the battles when he had to contend against untrained armies and bold, contemptuous generals on the Northern side. But he never even then was able to follow up any victory, or to turn an advantage to greatest account that could be derived by his far-sighted parties. Mr. Davis kept him in his place, in spite of remonstrance and advice until the last was won over to General Grant at Olustee, when he reluctantly defected. Then he had to withdraw from his command, in defense to public clamor in Richmond; but an irretrievable amount of damage had been done to the Confederate cause. General Sheridan, who was serving under General Grant, first gave clear evidence of his military capacity in fighting against Bragg at Chancellorsville. General Bragg seems to have been a man of great energy and to have constantly been in contact with some of his officers. He had a gift for the preparation of wordy proclamations in the high Roman fashion, which, as in the case of his barren invasion of Kentucky, had a ludicrous sound in their grandiloquence, even before they proved themselves ineffective.

REFORMS IN TURKEY.

Mr. W. E. Proctor has received from a correspondent in Constantinople, whom he says there is no one whose opinion would be more generally admitted, if he were allowed to publish the writer's name, to deserve consideration, on account of his knowledge, judgment, and disinterestedness, a letter on reforms in Turkey. In the opinion of this gentleman, if Europe fails to do anything for Turkey, it must commence with the Turkish Empire, and to make the absolute equality of all the races in the Empire. So long as this is not secured, nothing has been gained, and the Turkish Government will never put in force any reforms, tending to give real equality to the Christians except as it is compelled to do by the Turks. The army and police force must be made national and not Moslem, all affairs of the State must be open to all, and the legislative, the Shari'a must be abolished as the law of the Empire, and a civil code substituted. Financial and administrative reform is needed by Turks as well as Christians. All classes in Asia, as well as Europe, are suffering from destructive, dishonest taxation and misadministration in all departments. Although something must be done, the people themselves are sufficiently advanced for such a change, and think that it might be well to let the Turks go to pieces, rather than to be seconded in a better Europe. Turkey is divided into vilayets or provinces. This was a scheme of Ali and Abd Pasha for despotism. It has proved a miserable failure, like every other reform attempted for lack of honest men to carry it out; but under European guidance it might be well, and organized, to make each of the vilayets a small state, and to let the Christian element control where it is in the majority. If applied to all European Turkey, this would satisfy the Greeks as well as the Bulgarians; and if to Asiatic Turkey, it would be a blessing to Turks and Armenians there.

By way of illustration it is suggested that if the Empire were to be divided into provinces, about 500,000 square miles, it would be to all parts of the world, at current rates, this Association will, until further notice, provide out of the earnings, first for an interest dividend of 15%, for shareholders on Capital and thereafter distribute among Policy holders annually, cash, ALL the profits of the Underwriting Business pro rata to amount of premium contributed.

GILMAN & CO.

Established 1869.
CAPITAL—\$200,000
THE Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of \$60,000 on any one.

FIRST-CLASS LIFE.

1. General Agent, Hongkong, for Imperial Fire Insurance Company, Hongkong, 1st March, 1876.
YANG-TSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF SHANGHAI.

OBINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY'S SHARES—\$1,670 per share.
China and Japan Marine Insurance—The 15 per cent. premium on the premiums of this human man, true to his false mediumism. But here it is a difficulty, the spirits undertake to guarantee the mediumism, but who will guarantee the spirits? We do not know whether any English mediums have as yet been honoured by diplomas. Our information is from Russian sources, and especially related to a certain Russian medium, who has not long ago, among his peers, his exertions found the diploma of which the following is a translation—“Re incarnation and exorcism of spirits No. 11.—Optimism of life from rage to age and world to world—Diploma: The Legion of Spirits, recognizing your ardent and unlimited zeal for the science which reveals the mysteries of the supernatural, and the secret of the spiritual world, in order that you may serve as a link of union between the material world and the immaterial world, and may transmute to the profane manifestations from the spirit world. In token whereof the present diploma is conferred upon you—Paris, January 1, 1876—René, Great Pontifical Secretary—Conferred by the Pontifical Academy. How many others have been inspired to constitute itself a university for the issuing of spiritual diplomas will no mystery to those who are familiar with the progress of mystical studies and speculation in France of late years.—The Lance.

SALES ON NOVEMBER 27TH AS REPORTED BY THE CHINESE TRADES.

Bank Bills, on demand, 4/1.
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight, 4/1.
Bank Bills, at 6 months' sight, 4/1.
Credits, at 6 months' sight, 4/1.
Documentary Bills, at 30 days' sight, 4/1.
On BOMBAY—Bank, sight, 234.
On CALCUTTA—Bank, sight, 234.
On SHANGHAI—Bank, sight, 76.
Private, 30 days' sight, 76.

CHINESE IMPERIAL LOAN—210.

EXCHANGE.

On LONDON—
Bank Bills, on demand, 4/1.
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight, 4/1.
Bank Bills, at 6 months' sight, 4/1.

Credits, at 6 months' sight, 4/1.

Documentary Bills, at 30 days' sight, 4/1.

On BOMBAY—Bank, sight, 234.

On CALCUTTA—Bank, sight, 234.

On SHANGHAI—Bank, sight, 76.

Private, 30 days' sight, 76.

SWATOW—AMOY-TAMSUI & HONOR (str.)

MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY.

SAIGON, SINGAPORE, &c.

SINGAPORE, BRISBANE, &c.

MANILA.

YOKOHAMA.

HONGKONG.

NEW YORK.

SAN FRANCISCO & CHINA.

Extracts.

PLAYING AT CHESS.

The *Adelphi Observer* directs attention to the following exquisite little poetical fragment which was composed some years ago by the new Viceroy of India, Lord Lytton, who, doing his titled name, well maintained the literary prestige of his family under the assumed name of "Owen Meredit."

My love, do you remember
When we were given to sail with
These were the days of our birth,
Curtain'd with from the many waters,
When you and I played chess together,
Checkmated by each other's eyes?
Ah, still I see your soft white hand,
Holding the queen in her quiet birth,
The double Castle guard the king,
The Bishop bent on distant things,
More, sailing through the fight,
Our flocks touch our glances meet,
Again, a check, and the queen retreats,
Is leaving. Down the field your Queen
Rides slow her soldier, bairn,
And checks my unware,
Ah, no, the little bairn's done.
Doubtless, now, when we're
For many a morn, since then, we've been
Mid-life a perplexing checker mate,
And many a game with Fortune played—
What is it we have won?
This is at least—if that's so!
The next time we'll fight for us,
As in those old still nights of ours
(We were grown so early wags!),
Can you and I slay out the skies,
Shut out the world and winter weather,
And eyes exchange war with eyes,
Play chess, as then we played together.

BISMARCK AND EARL RUSSELL.

A question of the Duchies had been opened in 1859, in consequence of the events in Italy, and had grown to importance since Lord John Russell's Gothic despatch; the magnificent harbour of Kiel was a prize worth playing for; and Bismarck's antagonist in regard to the Duchies was Earl Russell, who was easily convinced that the German covetousness proceeded from Austria and the secondary States, and that Prussia was eager to restrain both. The diet of Frankfurt desired a federal execution in Holstein; Denmark accepted English mediation—or a promise made by Bismarck to Great Britain that he would prevent the execution; Earl Russell was delighted at the influence of the attitude assumed by England; but in three weeks Bismarck withdrew his assistance. In the interval Lord Russell, overjoyed at Bismarck's co-operation, had sacrificed to him the Polish question with Russia, and emancipated Napoleon by his opposition to a European congress, and by leaving him in the lurch with regard to Denmark and Russia. The field was now clear for Count Bismarck, who was now no longer satisfied with federal execution in Holstein, but managed to deprive the King of Denmark first of Holstein and then of Schleswig, by a series of manœuvres, partly diplomatic and partly military, in which he was constantly aided and abetted by his Russian ally. Yet, as M. Klaeck observed, "Russia more than any other Power Europe was it of importance to preserve the freedom of the Baltic, and to prevent the harbour of Kiel from falling into the hands of the Germans; it was also of more importance to her than to any other to remember that the people of Courland and Livonia spoke a much purer and harmonious German than the people of Schleswig." "Prince Gortschakoff and Prince Bismarck" in Blackwood's Magazine.

THE NEW SULTAN AND THE CARPENTER.

The correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* mentions that one of the Sultan's favorite "fads" is a passion for art-carving and wood-carving. He has a regular workshop, in which he practices both these handicrafts. A Meklenburg German, Carl Jensen, owes his great success *au pair de Maistre* to Abdul Hamid's taste for fancy upholstery. Jensen was a commoner, employed in the Prince's workshop to do the rougher kinds of carpentry, and became His Highness' sole confidant—the most influential personage in the household. By more chance the Prince's attention was attracted by something the man did or said; he got into the habit of talking with him, and took such pleasure in his conversation that he soon not only made him director of the workshop, but entrusted him with all sorts of commissions. Carl, as Abdul Hamid always calls him, justified the confidence placed in him in the most brilliant manner—he not only bought cheap but got good articles for his money. The Prince's delight with his acquisition knew no bounds when Jensen gradually developed a variety of other talents—fitting up rooms, isolating after the Prince's wardrobe, pronouncing horses, cleaning carriages, &c.; in short, he became quite indispensable. One day, when Carl had made an unusually lucky hit in his purchase, Abdul Hamid resolved to confer on unprincipled favor upon him. The Prince opened one of the wardrobe with his own hands, and gave them to Jensen. Jensen had only bought some shoes for the Prince; when he saw them on them, they did not exactly fit, but were so well cut and finished that the illustrious lady could not bear to send them back. She sent for her husband, and, after a long discussion, Carl was called in and requested to see himself where the shoes did not exactly suit the Prince's feet so that he might have them altered for her. Jensen himself was quite overcome by this mark of confidence.

SULTANIC ATROGIES.

A London correspondent relates the following incidents in the career of Abdul Aziz, the late Sultan. The old-told tale of the Sultans of Turkey secretly dispatching their emissaries by train in sacks and conveying them to the Bosphorus, has for some time been discredited—or, at least, has been held as being a thing of the past; but the following incident is related by a literary gentleman, who has just returned from an extensive tour in the East, taking Constantinople on his way home, may be relied upon as being authentic. It would appear that the late Sultan Abdul Aziz had a terrible horror of lamps, and he laboured under the infatuation that he was to meet his death by one of them setting him on fire and burning him to death. The consequence was that no lamps were allowed to be seen in the palace, and all lights had to be fixed up on the walls, so as to preclude the possibility of their touching or coming in contact with the sacred person of His Majesty. By some means one of his female domestics, only a month or two previous to his death, had been using one of these horrid articles, and when unfortunately the Sultan happened to pass through the corridor where she was engaged, as soon as he saw her he jumped an unaccountable passion, seized the lamp, and knocked the unfeeling female to the floor, and did not leave her until she was kicked to death. Strange tales are told of a harper who was suddenly promoted to a high place in the Sultan's household and covered with honours, and who as suddenly disappeared, no one knowing how. Another incident was related by an English resident, which gives some idea how little human life was held recently on the shores of the Bosphorus. While walking a walk one day in spring by the shore, he saw two men dragging a woman past him, on whose head the utmost horror was depicted. They took the poor creature to a secluded spot, and when they took place is unknown, but to a short time the same men returned without their burden. They had it doubtless consigned their victim to a watery grave.

THE MONTENEGRIN CAPITAL.

From the Austro-Dalmatian frontier on the village of Cetinje—which although it is dignified with the title of capital of the Principality of Montenegro, is still only a village—it is scarcely more than a four hours' ride, and yet the road is a mere mountain track across rocky hills and barren plateau, over which a few gaunt trees and stunted shrubs are scattered. During the journey the high peaks of the Albanian mountains and the blue waters of the Lake of Skadar are for a brief while visible; just as the plain of Cetinje, with its poorly cultivated fields, come in sight, when an abrupt and even difficult descent has to be commenced. After leaving the little mountain village of Bata built according to the usual Montenegrin fashion, in the form of a half-circle against a steep, rocky declivity, the chief powder-magazine of the principality is passed, and a view of Cetinje itself is obtained. Some distance on the right hand, lost as it were among the rocks and brambles, is the巍峨的 church of the ancient monastery, which rises on the southern slope of a rocky spur dominating the town. Since its first erection, in 1284, it has been destroyed and rebuilt again and again, so that the principal part of the present structure is only a century and a half old. Close to it is a large open space among the rocks where the bishop keeps his bees, the wax and honey from which materially help to swell his meagre revenues. At a distance the numerous hives might almost be mistaken for groups of tombs in a Turkish cemetery. Perched upon a mound dominating the town, the famous Tower of Skulls, on the battlements of which the Montenegrins have long been in the habit of hanging the heads of their Turkish enemies brought home by them as trophies from the combats in which they have been engaged.

The Montenegrins are of the characteristic Servian type. Tall and vigorous, with sharply defined features, black eyes and hair, and long and thick mustaches, the men are above everything warriors, but certainly barbarians too. They are exceedingly vindictive and the vendetta is as common in the *Tsata* as in Corsica. Insurgent feuds though the cause of quarrel may be, the Montenegrin will yet exact satisfaction, and, posted behind some convenient rock, will visit his adversary with a swift and certain vengeance.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

GREAT MEN.

A great man is not necessarily the most pleasant of companions. Milton is a sublime poet, but we are not quite sure that a week spent in his company would have been remembered with unalloyed pleasure. Coleridge, it is just possible, might have wearied us with his unceasing talk; and Wordsworth, though a good man, and a noble poet, did not, we must believe, always act the part of a lost with entire satisfaction to his guests. It is not given to every distinguished man to make himself like Sir Walter Scott, as much beloved as he is admired, and it is not every writer, however admirable and accomplished who can make his readers his friends, and bring them, if it were, into cordial relationship with himself. This is what Addison and Steele have done, and this is why we feel so much at home in their company. Goodness Milton is, is awful; but Addison's goodness has in it a grace and sweetness, a frankness and almost womanliness of tone which forbid the sense of awe.—*Cornhill Magazine*.

THE STAGE AND DANIEL DERONDA.

Geo. Eliot's new story is full of ideas of the stage. All the characters are connected with the stage in some way or another. Mirah brought up an actress by her father. Gwendolen has a turn for acting, and proposes it as a profession when poverty threatens. D. Ronda's Jewish mother was a tragic actress. "For nine years queen of the stage." Her Kleiser, while a musical genius in his own person, is a theatrically critics and judge. Performance, conscious or unconscious, is held constantly before the reader's mind. To be an artist is to make the most of this life—even perhaps, on the principle that life is short and art is long, to extend it; for the mysterious Princess, Deronda's mother, disappears from the scene, personating "another life." "With the last words she raised her arms till they were bare to the elbow, her brow was contracted in one deep fold, her eyes were closed, her voice was smothered; in her dusky flame-coloured garment she looked like a dreamlike visitor from some region of departed mortals." The author somewhere remarks that the English gentleman objects to looking inspired. His objection, we think, extends also to other people looking inspired after this fashion which savours strongly of the *Victor Hugo* French school.—*Saturday Review*.

UNDERGROUND JERUSALEM.

We are making out a new plan of Jerusalem; of that Jerusalem which was seen and rotted by our Lord. We are far from having done our work as yet, but we are steadily recovering a true and vivid picture of the Holy City, as it stood when He looked down into its streets and courts from the temple. The senators group themselves around a worn-eaten table, the president being accompanied with an old arm-chair. This is a step in advance of what was provided in Prince Daniel's time, when the Senate met in a long, low, thatched building, scarcely better than a barn, divided into two compartments, in one of which the mules and donkeys of senators coming from a distance were established, while the other was reserved for the deliberations of this august body. The apartment was bare with the exception of a strip of carpeting, a lone stone bench against the walls, and some chairs grouped around the hearth, on which in winter a huge fire was kept blazing. Here the senators, after divesting themselves of their heavier arms, but invariably with their long pistols and poignards stuck in their belts, would take their seats, all of them smoking during the discussions and while the official documents were being read by the secretary of the Prince. Whichever the latter was present he mingled freely with the senators, sitting among them on the same stone bench, but raised up a trifle on a small cushion. When the business on hand threatened to extend beyond the usual dinner hour, it was the common practice to roast a sheep whole in the senate-hall, and for the senators to help themselves from time to time, without any interruption to the proceedings. The Montenegrin Senate, including the president and vice-president, is composed of sixteen members. The president receives £120 per annum, and the vice-president £120, five of the senators who reside at Cetinje being allowed £63 each, while nine others, who do senatorial duty in turn for three months in the year, are remunerated at the rate of £30 apiece. The Government of Montenegro is essentially a despotic one, spite of the titles with which certain functionaries are invested. The Prince is master of everything, the Senate having merely to register his decrees. Still a wholesome restraint is imposed on him through fear of his uncle Darbo's fate, if he became thoroughly obnoxious to his subjects, a knife or a pistol would speedily show how an obnoxious ruler might be got rid of.

Near to the well and mulberry-tree a wretched little inn, the only one of which Cetinje could boast, used to stand. Here in front of a long zinc counter, the higher officials of the place would assemble to indulge in frequent drams of "slivovitz" or "Zemaroschino," and here the sombre and vaudevilles would treat each other to liquor. On the first floor was the traveller's room, infested with ravenous insects, and furnished with a violet-table, several leather chairs, and a couple of veranda-looking beds, together with a large camp bedstead, on which travellers, preferring repose, enveloped in their cloaks and wraps, to running the risk of the other sleeping accommodation. Some eight years ago a Hotel des Etrangers was erected at the expense of the Government at the further end of the principal street of Cetinje, but with all its pretensions, so far as cleanliness and comfort are concerned, it is scarcely superior to the miserable little hotel it was designed to supplant. About a hundred yards from the main entrance to the Bazaar stands the modest place in which Prince Milite resided.

The exterior is remarkably simple, but the interior walls of three handsomely decorated salons, the refined elegance of which contrasts strikingly with the rude bearing of the Montenegrin chiefs, who are their habitual frequenters. A more interesting edifice is the ancient monastery, which rises on the southern slope of a rocky spur dominating the town. Since its first erection, in 1284, it has been destroyed and rebuilt again and again, so that the principal part of the present structure is only a century and a half old. Close to it is a large open space among the rocks where the bishop keeps his bees, the wax and honey from which materially help to swell his meagre revenues. At a distance the numerous hives might almost be mistaken for groups of tombs in a Turkish cemetery. Perched upon a mound dominating the town, the famous Tower of Skulls, on the battlements of which the Montenegrins have long been in the habit of hanging the heads of their Turkish enemies brought home by them as trophies from the combats in which they have been engaged.

From the *Continentale Magazin*.

HONGKONG SHIPS.

			WOOLLEN GOODS	
Arrived at	Chinese port	Date	Per lb.	Per cwt.
Arrived at	China	Nov. 25	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Nov. 26	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Nov. 27	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Nov. 28	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Nov. 29	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Nov. 30	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Nov. 31	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Dec. 1	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Dec. 2	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Dec. 3	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Dec. 4	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Dec. 5	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Dec. 6	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Dec. 7	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Dec. 8	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Dec. 9	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Dec. 10	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Dec. 11	60/-	£10/-
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Arrived at	China	Dec. 15	60/-	£10/-
Arrived at	China	Dec. 16	60/-	£10/-
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Arrived at	China	Jan. 28	60/-	